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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 038908.56406US	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2004/008886		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/540,625	
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE June 24, 2004		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED June 25, 2003	
TITLE OF INVENTION WORM REDUCTION GEAR AND ELECTRIC POWER STEERING APPARATUS			
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Toru SEGAWA, et al.			
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:			
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.	
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.	
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.	
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The US has been elected (Article 31).	
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))	
	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).	
	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	has been communicated by the International Bureau.	
	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	Is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).	
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).	
	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	is attached hereto.	
	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).	
7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))	
	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).	
	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	have been communicated by the International Bureau.	
	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.	
	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	have not been made and will not be made.	
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).	
9.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).	
10.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).	
	Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
11.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.	
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.	
13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A preliminary amendment.	
14.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.	
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A substitute specification.	
16.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.	
17.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825.	
18.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).	
19.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).	
20.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other items or information: Informal Comments in Response to the International Searching Authority	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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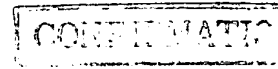
U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/540,625		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2004/008886		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 038908.56406US	
The following fees have been submitted				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
21.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic national fee (37 C.F.R. §1.492(a))		\$300.00	\$
22.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Examination fee (37 C.F.R. §1.492(c))			
If the written opinion prepared by ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)				\$0.00	
All other situations.....				\$200.00	\$
23.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Search fee (37 C.F.R. §1.492(b))			
If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the International preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)				\$0	
Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority.....				\$100	
International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the Office or previously communicated to the US by the IB				\$400	
All other situations.....				\$500	\$
TOTAL OF 21, 22 AND 23 =					\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)		RATE	
- 100	/ 50 =			x 250	\$
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(h)).					\$
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	- 20		x 50		\$
Independent claims	- 3		x 200		\$
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ 360		\$
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =					\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.					
SUBTOTAL =					\$
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).					\$
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =					\$
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21 (h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property.....					\$
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =					\$
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				Amount to be charged:	\$
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Attorney Docket No. 038908.56406US) in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Attorney Docket No. 038908.56406US).</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>					
<p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.</p>					
<p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <p>Crowell & Moring, LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, D.C. 20044-4300 Tel. No. (202) 624-2500 Fax No. (202) 628-8844</p>					
				SIGNATURE	
				Jeffrey D. Sanok	
				NAME	
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				REGISTRATION NUMBER	
				March 28, 2006	
				DATE	

JDS:pct

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31 May, 2005

Informal Comments

Re: International application No.: PCT/JP2004/008887
International filing date: 24 June, 2004
Priority date: 25 June 2003
Applicant: NSK LTD. et al
Applicant's or agent's file reference: NPS224PCT

Dear Sirs:

The Applicant hereto states his comments against the comments made by the Examiner of International Searching Authority mailed on 21 September, 2004, with regard to Claim 4 and the dependent claims thereof.

The Examiner's comments for Claim 4 are as follows:

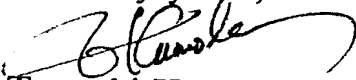
In Document 1 (JP2001-108025) cited in International Search Report, applying an elastic force to the worm shaft in a direction towards the worm wheel through the pair of elements ("rolling elements 32" in Document 1) is described. One skilled in the art can replace the pair of elements by a pre-load pad easily. In addition, a direction of possible displacement of the rolling elements 32 in Document 1 is inclined with respect to a virtual plane containing the central axis of the worm shaft and meshing portion between the worm provided on the worm shaft and the worm wheel. Therefore, the invention described in Claim 4 lacks the inventive step.

However, the Applicant considers that the Examiner misunderstands the essential feature of this invention. The feature of this invention lies in that the displacement (elasticity) of the pre-load pad in the axial direction of the worm wheel is differentiated depending on the rotation direction of the worm wheel, due to the fact that the force applied to the worm is different in the rotation direction of the worm wheel. That is, according to the structure described in Claim 4, the angle between the

shaft, which differs with the direction of rotation of the wheel, and the direction of displacement of the pre-load pad, becomes approximately equal irrespective of the direction of the reaction force. Hence the difference in the amount of elastic deformation of the pre-load pad based on the reaction force due to this difference in direction can be readily reduced (Paragraph 31 of this specification). Document 1 does not disclose nor suggest the feature of this invention. Therefore, the applicant believes that the invention described in Claim 4 fulfills the inventive step.

The Applicant wishes his comments should be taken into consideration when the application is examined in the national stage of each designated state.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Kamoda', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Tetsuaki Kamoda
Patent Attorney